

(Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 194, a resolution designating July 30, 2019, as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day”.

S. RES. 234

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 234, a resolution affirming the United States commitment to the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and noting that Israeli annexation of territory in the West Bank would undermine peace and Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2103. A bill to improve access to affordable insulin; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2103

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Affordable Insulin Approvals Now Act”.

SEC. 2. DEEMED APPROVAL UNDER SECTION 351.

Section 7002(e)(4) of the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-148) is amended—

(1) by striking “An amended” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An amended”; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PENDING APPLICATIONS.—With respect to an application for an insulin biological product submitted under subsection (b)(2) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355) with a filing date that is not later than December 31, 2019, until the Secretary makes a determination on final approval with respect to such application, the Secretary shall continue to review and approve (as appropriate) such application under such section 505, even if such review and approval process continues after March 23, 2020. For purposes of completing the review and approval process for such an application, any listed drug referenced in the application shall be treated as a listed drug under section 505(j)(7) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, even if such listed drug is deemed licensed under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act during such review and approval process. Effective on the later of March 23, 2020, or the date of approval under subsection (c) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of any such application, such approved application shall be deemed to be a license for the biological product under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.”.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. REED, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 2106. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit smoking on the premises of any facility of the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2106

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON SMOKING IN FACILITIES OF THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

(a) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1715 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 1715. Prohibition on smoking in facilities of the Veterans Health Administration

“(a) PROHIBITION.—No person (including any veteran, patient, resident, employee of the Department, contractor, or visitor) may smoke on the premises of any facility of the Veterans Health Administration.

“(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘facility of the Veterans Health Administration’ means any land or building (including any medical center, nursing home, domiciliary facility, outpatient clinic, or center that provides readjustment counseling) that is—

“(A) under the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans Affairs;

“(B) under the control of the Veterans Health Administration; and

“(C) not under the control of the General Services Administration.

“(2) The term ‘smoke’ includes—

“(A) the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and any other combustion or heating of tobacco; and

“(B) the use of any electronic nicotine delivery system, including electronic or e-cigarettes, vape pens, and e-cigars.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of subchapter II of chapter 17 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 1715 and inserting the following new item:

“1715. Prohibition on smoking in facilities of the Veterans Health Administration.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 526 of the Veterans Health Care Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-585; 38 U.S.C. 1715 note) is repealed.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on October 1, 2019.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 274—EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH FALUN GONG PRACTITIONERS WHO HAVE LOST LIVES, FREEDOMS, AND OTHER RIGHTS FOR ADHERING TO THEIR BELIEFS AND PRACTICES, AND CONDEMNING THE PRACTICE OF NON-CONSENTING ORGAN HARVESTING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr.

COONS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 274

Whereas Falun Gong (also known as Falun Dafa) is a Chinese spiritual discipline founded by Li Hongzhi in 1992 that consists of spiritual and moral teachings, meditation, and exercise, and is based upon the universal principles of truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance;

Whereas, during the mid-1990s, Falun Gong acquired a large and diverse following, with as many as 70,000,000 practitioners at its peak;

Whereas, on April 25, 1999, an estimated 10,000 to 30,000 Falun Gong practitioners gathered in Beijing to protest growing restrictions by the Government of the People's Republic of China on the activities of Falun Gong practitioners, and the Government of the People's Republic of China responded with an intensive, comprehensive, and unforgiving campaign against the movement that began on July 20, 1999, with the banning of Falun Gong;

Whereas the Constitution of the People's Republic of China guarantees basic rights, including the freedoms of speech, association, demonstration, and religion;

Whereas, in 1993, the Government of the People's Republic of China praised Li Hongzhi for his contributions in “safeguarding social order and security” and “promoting rectitude in society”;

Whereas, in many detention facilities and labor camps, Falun Gong prisoners of conscience have at times comprised the majority of the population, and have been said to receive the longest sentences and the worst treatment, including torture;

Whereas, according to overseas Falun Gong and human rights organizations, since 1999, from several hundred to a few thousand Falun Gong adherents have died in custody from torture, abuse, and neglect;

Whereas a review of the Government of the People's Republic of China by the United Nations Human Rights Council's Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in November 2018, recommended that China “[e]nd prosecution and persecution on the basis of religion or belief, including for Muslims, Christians, Tibetan Buddhists and Falun Gong”;

Whereas the United Nations Committee Against Torture and the Special Rapporteur on Torture have expressed concern over the allegations of organ harvesting from Falun Gong prisoners, and have called on the Government of the People's Republic of China to increase accountability and transparency in the organ transplant system and punish those responsible for abuses;

Whereas the killing of religious or political prisoners for any purpose, including for the purpose of selling their organs for transplant, is an egregious and intolerable violation of the fundamental right to life;

Whereas voluntary and informed consent is the precondition for ethical organ donation, and international medical organizations state that prisoners, deprived of their freedom, are not in the position to give free consent and that the practice of sourcing organs from prisoners is a violation of ethical guidelines in medicine;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China continue to deny reports that many